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Giannetti comments on Peace Garden poem

In light of the interest expressed in the "Case of the Missing Poem," I feel the need to express my feelings about its promised return to the Peace Garden. Having given poetry readings in Europe and Asia, and having been translated and published in three foreign languages, the installation of my 2010 dedicatory poem in its appropriate place in my hometown has a very special meaning. It is fitting

and appropriate historically and esthetically.

Poets have written about gardens since time immemorial. My dedicatory poem participates in this honored tradition and celebrates the historic friendship between two neighboring countries in North America.

Having delivered poetry readings as the guest of government and civic officials on other con-

tinents, I feel a special sense of gratitude and honor to have my poem returned to the Peace Garden here in Lewiston. I have seen many fine installations of poetry plaques and hope to work with our mayor and to obtain other advice on the artistic materials and format for the installation.

Far from being an element of mere signage directing visitors, the artistic intent of the installation

is to provide a contemplative opportunity for visitors to reflect on the beauty of nature and its message for our troubled world, offering an enduring hope for peace. In that hope, I now present the poem here for your reflection.

Bob Giannetti
Website:

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THE PEACE GARDEN

In this garden hope is clear and bright –
springing from earth in stirring breeze,
telling time in fruitful fragrance
under sky afire and in sustaining rain.

Gardens fine
Let mind incline
To greening thought
So long sought
So long sought

In the consuming smoke and din of daily commerce,
the serpent that slithered through Eden lurks,
ready to blight the glory, blast the bloom –
demanding dominion, entrenching waste and doom.

Gardens fine
Let mind incline
To greening thought
So long sought
So long sought

The shining red apple still holds its relentless allure.
Technology vies with nature, a challenge to limits
for good and for ill, the unforeseen forever looming,
Eden's expulsion echoing in the roar of enterprise.

Seeds of amity between industry and nature are yet
planted

in peaceful places, gardens such as this, freedom's
chords
flowering beyond the groan of war, the shriek of greed,
the spilling and waste of earth's precious store.

Gardens fine
Let mind incline
To greening thought
So long sought
So long sought

On either side of a river, two nations long at peace
seek the solace of the spirit's plenty in sun and in shade,
this garden of friendship an emblem of that quest,
its unfurled colors a floral flag of hope –
a hope whispering in winds across the globe
that the glory of renewal can flow in sun and in rain
to the very ground we stand upon
and flower into a new Eden of the mind.

Gardens fine
Let mind incline
To greening thought
So long sought
So long sought

Where freedom and friendship bloom
Where freedom and friendship bloom

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BBB scam alert: Watch out for fraudulent QR codes

GUEST EDITORIAL BY THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Companies use QR codes to point consumers to their apps, track packages, or view menus. But because these codes can't be read by the human eye, they have become a way for scammers to disguise malicious links. As QR codes get more popular, BBB Scam Tracker is seeing more reports of con artists using them to mislead consumers.

How the Scam Works

You receive an email, a direct message on social media, a text message, a flyer, or a piece of mail that includes a QR code. You are supposed to scan the code with your phone's camera, and it will open a link. In some scams, the QR code takes you to a phishing website, where you are prompted to enter your personal information or login credentials for scammers to steal. Other times, con artists use

QR codes to automatically launch payment apps or follow a malicious social media account.

These scams differ greatly, but they all have one thing in common. Scammers hope you will scan the code right away, without taking a closer look. QR codes often appear to come from legitimate sources, so make sure any correspondence is legitimate before you scan the code.

For example, one victim told BBB

Scam Tracker that they received a fraudulent letter about student loan consolidation. It contained a QR code that appeared to link to the official Studentaid.gov website. The QR code helped the program, which was a fraud, appear official.

In addition, Bitcoin addresses are often sent via QR codes, which makes QR codes a common element in cryptocurrency scams. One consumer who was

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Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

Founded February 14, 1987

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The Tribune is published weekly.

Display Ads Deadline: MONDAY 5 PM

New York State Press Association, Niagara County Builders Association, Grand Island Chamber of Commerce, Wheatfield Business Association Inc., Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce, The Niagara USA Chamber.



NIAGARA FRONTIER PUBLICATIONS

